

# The American Legion

News: Local, State, National

## Delegates From All Parts of State Arrive for Convention of Ex-Soldiers Opening at Syracuse To-day

## Re-election of Commander Deegan Demanded; General Pershing and Governor Principal Speakers

With delegates from every quarter of the state in attendance the annual convention of the New York Department will be called to order this morning in Syracuse. State Commander William F. Deegan will preside throughout the three-day session. Numerous events have been arranged and many items of interest to every service man in the state will come up for discussion. The convention will be brought to a close on Saturday night, when officers will be elected for the coming year.

An American Legion Special, carrying hundreds of delegates from Westchester, Bronx, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Richmond and the entire metropolitan district, left the Grand Central Station last evening, and arrived at the convention city about midnight.

The delegates from Kings were jubilant because of the expected election of Donald Strachan for the office of first vice-commander. Westchester was equally confident that Commander Ely would return with the office.

**Deegan Sentiment Grows**  
There were persistent rumors of the possibility of William F. Deegan being re-elected state commander. The statement that he was the logical candidate only created a louder demand for his return to his present office. The delegates seemed reluctant to give him up even in the face of being elected commander of the national organization.

There are two candidates in the field for the office. They are Albert S. Callan, of Chatham, the present first vice-commander, and Edward N. Scheiberling, of Albany. Both have been endorsed by several counties, and the local contingent holds firm for the return of Commander Deegan. The present state commander has not entered the race for office and has steadily refused to comment either on the race for state commander or national commander. His only comment has been "the voice of the Legion is spoken at conventions."

**Pershing and Governor to Speak**  
General John J. Pershing and Governor Miller will be the principal speakers at the convention. Fourteen Congressional Medal of Honor men will form the escort to General Pershing. Other speakers will be United States Senator David I. Walsh, of Massachusetts; Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt; Rear Admiral Robert Coontz; Judge Kenesaw M. Landis, Major General Wendell Neville, and the four past commanders of the state department, who are Ogden Mills, Russel Sard, Wade H. Hayes and Charles Blakelee, as well as National Commander Hanford MacNider, of the Legion.

Various state committees will make reports, and there will be a number of resolutions presented. The Veterans' Mountain Camp also will elect officers and give a report of the standing of the camp at present. There will be a huge parade on Friday led by General Pershing. In line will be, according to the Legion officials, about 25,000 former service men. A big state reunion

will also be staged in conjunction with the convention.

The auxiliary will hold its convention at the same time.

**Open Session With Prayer**

The opening session will begin with a prayer by the Rev. Father Kelly, of Gloversville, formerly national chaplain of the Legion. An address of welcome will be made by the Mayor of Syracuse. Other speakers will be Judge Landis, Mrs. Hobart, national president; Mrs. Harriet May Mills, of Syracuse; Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt and Hanford MacNider.

At Friday's session prayer will be offered by the Rev. Bernard C. Clouston, Baptist minister, of Syracuse. Other speakers will be Mrs. Schuyler Knapp, of Syracuse; Mrs. Douglas Robinson, Mrs. C. J. Marks, president of the Greater Assembly, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and Miss Dickerman, who will talk on disarmament.

The convention, in addition to electing state officers and delegates to the national convention, is to name a member of the national executive committee, elect nine district chairmen, amend the constitution and attend to other business.

Among the entertainment events will be a reception on Thursday to meet distinguished guests; Friday afternoon, attending the Legion parade and athletic games in the Stadium; Friday night, a dance at the armory.

**New Officers Chosen**  
George H. Holden was unanimously chosen commander of Lorraine Cross Post at a recent meeting, when officers for the new year were elected. Other officers chosen were: Vice-commanders, Frank Twiss, Charles Small Jr. and J. Stanley Munroe; adjutant, Aaron M. Nadler; treasurer, Joseph C. Randazzo; sergeant-at-arms, Walter Seckendorff; chaplain, A. Stewart Shields, and the following executive committee members: Kenneth J. McElroy, Francis J. Wagner, G. Stafford Lewis, William A. Aston, Simon Olson, Robert S. McCormack and Harry Grower.

**Baby Parade at Block Party**  
Final plans have been completed for the block party, which will be held under the auspices of Chelsea Post of the American Legion, next Saturday night, on Twenty-first Street, between Eighth and Ninth Avenue. There will be two bands of music, which will play continuously throughout the evening. Some of the leading music publishing companies have promised to send their best artists to give vocal selections.

One of the features of the party will be a baby parade, which will be formed promptly at 8 p. m., at the Legion clubrooms, 409 West Twenty-first Street. Prizes will be given to the best dressed baby, the prettiest costumed junior and the most handsomely decorated house on the block.

**Victory Ball Planned**  
In announcing its second annual victory ball, to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria on Armistice Eve, November 10, the New York County organization of the American Legion expresses the hope "to make this an annual function for all time, securing the patronage of public spirited men and women prominent in society as well as those holding high office in the city, state and nation."

"Legion night will be, it is expected, a historical one, which not only Legionnaires, but all people, will come to regard as a night consecrated to the remedial work of the Legion among those men and women who served their country in her time of need and who now need our help."

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## Choked, Beaten At Hospital 81, Veteran Says

## Bronx Institution Inquiry Resumed to Hear Story; Says He Was Blindfolded and Kicked Unconscious

## Intoxicated, He Admits

## Charges Authorities Held Him Longer Than Record Shows, to Stop Testimony

Hearings on the investigation into conditions in United States Veterans' Hospital No. 81, Kingsbridge Road and Sedgwick Avenue, the Bronx, were unexpectedly resumed yesterday to record the story of John B. Martin, a former inmate of the institution. He charges he was blindfolded, then kicked and choked into insensibility at the hospital.

The hearing was held in the office of Martin Littleton, representing the public as a member of the committee, at 149 Broadway. Dr. Guy O. Ireland, who represented Colonel Charles R. Forbes, director of the Veterans' Bureau, and C. H. Jewett, representing the district manager of the bureau, also were present.

Martin told the committee that his mental ailment, "a slight nervous disorder," was due to shell-shock. He said he was the sole support of his widowed mother.

The hospital's record of the case, as read at the last hearing, charged that Martin, on the night of August 10, left the hospital grounds on a pass, returned intoxicated and resisted the attempts of six patrolmen who sought to return him to the hospital.

Martin explained that he had obtained the liquor in a "bootleg joint" to make him forget the treatment he and other war veterans received at the hospital. He said that he returned to the hospital about 10 o'clock that night, and near the grounds met Jeremiah Woods, another patient, who has already testified before the committee. Both of them were lying on the lawn, he said, when a doctor connected with

the institution inquired what they were doing there and made a derogatory remark. When Martin attempted to strike, Woods restrained him.

Two policemen across the street, who had been attending a boxing match in the neighborhood, brought him to the main building, Martin testified, from which he was taken to G Building, reserved for the violently insane. There he was struck by one of the orderlies, he said, and he hit back.

Two other orderlies came to the aid of the first one and put him (Martin) into a straitjacket, kicking and choking him all the while, he declared. He lapsed into unconsciousness, from which he recovered five hours later.

Martin insisted that, although the records show he was discharged from the hospital on August 19, he actually was kept there until August 19, when he was sent to a private camp in Connecticut, so that, he believes, he might be prevented from telling his story.

The committee resumed its executive sessions after taking Martin's testimony. Its findings will be submitted to Colonel Forbes, in Washington, after which they will be made public.

## Canadian Reported Missing

WINDSOR, Ont., Sept. 20.—Alexander H. May, formerly head of the maintenance department of the Canadian Products Division of the General Motors Corporation, of Walkerville, has been missing from his home since he left on a business trip to Toronto four weeks ago, it was learned to-day. He intended going on a hunting trip to northern Ontario, it was said. Friends believe he may have gone to New York while suffering from loss of memory.

## Gen. Reilly Assails Three Congressmen For Army Reduction

## Blames Anthony, Stafford and Sisson for Cutting Defense Appropriations; Says Men Were Untrained

Special Dispatch to The Tribune

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 20.—Charging that lack of training was the cause of thousands of American soldiers needlessly losing their lives in France, Brigadier General Henry J. Reilly, retired, of New York, loosed a verbal assault on three congressmen at the convention of the Military Order of the World War, here to-day. The three men named by General Reilly are Representatives Anthony, of Kansas; Stafford, of Wisconsin, and Sisson, of Mississippi. These men, members of the Appropriation Committee of the House, were charged with responsibility for a nullification of the national defense act and cutting the appropriations for the army and navy.

"You all know," said General Reilly, "and I know, that even in my brigade American citizens were handed Springfield rifles, about the use of which they knew nothing, and were then sent over the top. I could tell of rifles being put in the hands of men for the first

time in the evening and at dawn they were ordered to advance. They stood up because of lack of training and proved excellent targets, although the officers and non-commissioned officers tried to teach them to seek cover in the few minutes given them.

"I tell you if things continue to go as they have been going in Washington recently we can look to see Jane Addams as President and William Z. Foster in the chair of the Secretary of War.

The present military policy of the government was condemned to-day by the convention, which went on record for a standing army of 150,000 men and 13,000 officers "as the absolute minimum required to effectively carry out the provision of the national defense act of 1920 and to provide an adequate force to properly garrison our home defenses and our overseas possessions." The action of Congress in ordering reduction in military forces was declared to be interfering with the "effectiveness of our entire scheme of national defense." This legislation, the resolution stated, already has been reflected in a decided lowering in the morale of the regular army.

## Financiers Ready to Buy New St. Lawrence Power

## Deeper Waterway Planner Says They Will Pay Cost of Operation

WELLAND, Ont., Sept. 20.—President O. E. Fleming, of the Canadian Deep Waterways and Power Association, declared to-day, in addressing the

organization, that a group of financiers was prepared to buy the power proposed to be developed in connection with the scheme for deepening the St. Lawrence River.

"I can say to you now," he said, "that so far as the cost of the enterprise is concerned there is a strong financial group prepared to buy the

power at a price that will cover the cost of operation, maintenance, interest charges and sinking funds." Objection to the scheme in Canada, Mr. Fleming said, was known to be centered at Montreal, where certain financial interests were not favorable to the development of St. Lawrence power by government agents.

# The "Big Scene" in Cement Making

The climax in the huge impersonal drama of cement making is the burning of the raw materials in great rotary kilns.

A good-sized kiln, set on end, would be taller than a 20-story building. A touring car could run through it.

The kilns are steel cylinders lined with fire brick. They rest at a slight angle from the horizontal on heavy rollers, and are driven by steel gears at half a revolution a minute. A medium-sized kiln weighs 275,000 pounds, empty, and has foundations as heavy as for a 10-story building.

Into the upper end of the revolving kiln flows the finely ground materials for cement. There they meet a blast of burning pulverized coal, blown in at high pressure from an 8-inch jet at the opposite end.

Where the materials enter the kiln, the temperature is 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit or more. As they tumble over and over on their 3-hour journey through the kiln to the face of the flame, they rise gradually to a temperature of 2,500 to 3,000 degrees—more heat than is required for almost any other industrial process.

The workman, watching through his peephole in the end of the kiln, must wear smoked glasses. It is like looking at the sun.

And if you speak to him, you must shout close to his ear to be heard above the roar of the flames.

In a big cement plant, there will be a dozen or more of these kilns, roaring and revolving side by side in one great room.

A medium-sized kiln's output is 25 barrels an hour, and in that time 3,500 pounds of coal must be blown into it.

You may have seen the great smoke stacks in rows over a cement plant. There is a stack for every kiln, and four kilns make a medium-sized plant, with 3,000 barrels capacity a day or thereabouts. When you see four of these stacks together, you can know that enough coal or equivalent fuel is being burned in the kilns beneath to supply the electricity for the homes, streets, shops and industries of three ordinary cities of 20,000 inhabitants each.

In a certain town of 12,000 inhabitants there is a 4-kiln plant where the heat lost through the stacks, because of the great temperature and draft required below, would, if it could be captured, supply three times the electric light and power used by all the rest of the town.

Burning cement, costly as it is, is only one of the heavy fuel consuming operations in cement making.

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